

# FOOD & PAPER WASTE COMPOST PROGRAM

Starting May 30<sup>th</sup> at Colrain Transfer Station



## YES - DO Compost:

### **Solid food wastes:**

- Meat, poultry, fish, bones, shells
- Cheese, dairy (no liquids)
- Eggs, eggshells
- Fruits, vegetables, peels
- Bread, rice, pasta, cereal
- Coffee grounds, filters, tea bags

### **Paper:**

- Paper napkins, paper towels
- Paper plates, paper cups, take-out containers (*BPI certified\* only*)
- Waxed cardboard, waxed paper
- Cardboard/pizza boxes with stuck on food (*recycle* empty pizza boxes)
- Paper egg cartons, molded fiber packaging (rip up to save space)
- Paper bags (*recycle* paper if clean)

### **Wood:**

- Wooden chopsticks, skewers, stirrers
- Small wooden fruit crates

### **"Compostable plastic" products:**

- Compostable cups (i.e. Greenware)
- Compostable bags (i.e. BioBag)
- "Plastic" brands must be BPI certified:

\*bpiworld.org



## NO - DO NOT Compost:

- **NO** liquids
- **NO** plastic bags, wrappers, cling wrap
- **NO** Styrofoam™
- **NO** plastic, foil, metal, glass
- **NO** beverage cartons, aseptic cartons (*recycle* with containers)
- **NO** frozen food boxes, ice cream cartons, Chinese food take-out boxes, butter wrappers (put these in trash)
- **NO** kitty litter, pet waste, diapers
- **NO** chemicals, hazardous residues
- **NO** disposable cleaning wipes



### **NO PLASTIC BAGS!**



Food waste and other biodegradable materials are hauled weekly to a permitted commercial composting facility. Plastic harms this process.

(This program is different from home composting. Meat, poultry, dairy, or oily foods should not be put in home compost bins.)

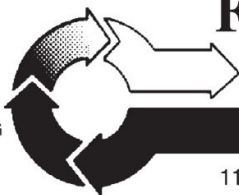
### **Franklin County Solid Waste District:**

413-772-2438; [info@franklincountywastedistrict.org](mailto:info@franklincountywastedistrict.org)

MA Relay for the hearing impaired:  
711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD)



REDUCTION  
RECYCLING  
COMPOSTING  
DISPOSAL



# Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

117 Main Street., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Greenfield, MA 01301 • (413) 772-2438 • Fax: (413) 772-3786  
[www.franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://www.franklincountywastedistrict.org) • [info@franklincountywastedistrict.org](mailto:info@franklincountywastedistrict.org)

## **New Food and Paper Waste Compost Program at the Colrain Transfer Station**

On May 30th, a new food and paper waste compost program will begin at the Colrain Transfer Station on Charlemont Rd. The collection is open to Colrain residents only, during transfer station open hours. There is no cost to participate in this program. Similar compost programs are successful at 14 municipal transfer stations in the county.

Composting reduces trash, saves money, makes a valuable soil amendment from waste, and slows climate change. Households that separate their food waste for composting can potentially reduce their trash volume and save money on required town trash stickers.

Triple T Trucking will place a special compost dumpster at the transfer station. The container will be emptied weekly, and the contents brought to Martin's Farm in Greenfield for composting. This commercial composting facility is different from your average backyard compost system in that it can compost meat, bones, cheese, paper products, and other materials that are not appropriate for home compost bins.

The new compost program will accept materials that are currently destined to go in the trash. All solid food wastes are acceptable including meat, bones, poultry, fish, cheese, dairy (no liquids), eggs, eggshells, shellfish, fruits, peels, vegetables, bread, grains, tea bags, coffee grounds and paper filters. Paper is also accepted: napkins and paper towels, paper egg cartons, paper to-go containers, and pizza boxes with stuck-on food. (Pizza boxes that are empty and free of food should go in paper recycling.)

It is very important to keep the following items OUT of the compost container: liquids; pet wastes, kitty litter, diapers; plastic bags, wrappers or cling wrap; polystyrene foam; conventional plastic, metal, foil, glass; or non-biodegradable items. Yard waste, leaves and brush are not accepted in this program.

To collect compostable items at home, residents can use a compost pail, 5-gallon bucket or any other closed container. Colrain transfer station will provide free 2-gallon "Sure-Close" kitchen food scrap collection pails for Colrain residents. To make clean-up of the pail easier, residents can line pails with newspaper, a paper bag, or a compostable BioBag. All "compostable plastic" bags and tableware must be BPI-certified; for more information, see [bpiworld.org](http://bpiworld.org).

Colrain residents can bring their food and paper waste to the transfer station during open hours and empty their pail or container into the compost dumpster. If compostable waste is transported to the transfer station in a traditional plastic bag, the resident must empty the bag into the compost container and put the plastic bag in the trash. Plastic bags should never be put in the compost collection bin.

In addition to participating in the transfer station compost program, the Solid Waste District encourages residents to also compost food waste and yard waste in home compost bins. Home composting is different from the municipal compost program at the transfer station; meat, bones, dairy and fats should not be put in home compost bins. Residents can add leaves, fruit and vegetable waste, coffee grounds, and eggshells to home compost bins to make compost for home gardens.

The Town of Colrain has purchased Earth Machine compost bins to give to Colrain residents free of charge; inquire at the transfer station. The Solid Waste District sells home compost bins and pails ongoingly to residents of 21 member towns, for details, visit the district's website at: [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org) and click on "Food Scraps & Composting."

The cost of the program, including Colrain's home compost bins, compost collection pails, hauling and more is being funded by a Community Compact grant that the Town of Colrain was awarded from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

For more information, see [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org), or contact the District office at [info@franklincountywastedistrict.org](mailto:info@franklincountywastedistrict.org) or 413-772-2438. MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD). The District is an equal opportunity provider.